AMERICAN MUSEUM NOVITATES

Number 833 Published by THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY New York City March 26, 1936

A NEW *DIOPSIS* FROM INDIA, WITH NOTES ON OTHERS (DIPTERA)

BY C. H. CURRAN

The species described below was forwarded for determination by Dr. R. Senior White, with the statement that it differed from the species with which he was familiar. Owing to the similar wing markings of many of the Oriental Diopsidae the identification of the species is difficult. Unfortunately, the collections before me are so small that the preparation of a key to the species is not possible, but notes are given on some closely related forms.

Diopsis whitei, new species

Related to *ferruginea* but shining blackish, the mesonotum brown pollinose except on the broad sides. Length, 5 to 7 mm. Width of head, male, 9 mm., female, 5.5 mm. The female is only 5 mm. in length.

MALE.—Head shining reddish; eye-stalks black ventrally and on the apex except in front; beyond the middle with tubercle and strong spine; on their upper surface with many low tubercles and with long sparse hair; in front with a partial row of sparse hairs. Antennae reddish, the apex of the third segment with brown tinge; arista brownish. Front with three or four irregular longitudinal furrows on each side, the ocellar triangle conspicuously raised. Middle of face rather strongly produced, the oral margin without teeth. Hair rather long, black. Palpi and clypeus reddish.

Thorax shining dark brown, the mesonotum with brownish pollen, leaving the sides very broadly shining behind the humeri. Hair long and yellowish. Scutellum pollinose, the spines very long and black, bearing long pale hair. Posterior half of the pleura above, metanotum and metasternum pale pollinose.

Legs reddish; tibiae brown, the front pair black, the middle tibiae with the apex reddish; first segment of the front tarsi strongly broadened, reddish on the basal half, black apically; second segment of front tarsi black, the apical three reddish yellow; middle tarsi brown with the basal one or two segments reddish; posterior tarsi brown with reddish base. Anterior femora not sharply constricted at the apex, the tubercle on their tibiae low and round; middle and posterior femora somewhat brownish apically.

Wings cinereous hyaline, with four brown bands, the one on the apex of the wing narrow; a wide, somewhat irregular brown band extends entirely across the middle of the wing, a somewhat wider one extends across the apical fourth, while a narrow, paler band extends backward from the third vein just beyond the basal third of the wing. Squamae and halteres yellow.

Abdomen shining brownish black; sides of the first segment and basal half of the

second broadly reddish, the third with a large reddish triangular spot on each side at the base, covered with white pollen, the second segment very thinly pollinose on the apical three-fifths; sixth segment pale pollinose.

FEMALE.—The width of the eye-stalks is only about equal to the length of the body, the anterior femur is less distinctly narrowed and the tubercle on the front tibia is very weak.

TYPES.—Holotype, male, and allotype, female, Saranda, Ch. Nagpur, India, May 2, 1935 (R. Senior White).

Diopsis indica Westwood

This species is common in India and is represented in the material before me by a series of thirteen specimens forwarded by Dr. T. Bainbrigge Fletcher.

Five males and five females, Gokteik, Upper Burma, March 31, 1913 (Y. R. Rao); one female, Assam, May, 1913, and two females, Khasi Hill, Assam, March 17, 1907.

Diopsis ferruginea Roeder

Four males and five females, Mergui, India, December 21–January 11, 1922 (Sharma).

This species is very close to *dalmanni* Wiedemann but differs in having the anterior femora much more strongly constricted at the apex and a stronger, acute tubercle on the base of the tibia. The upper part of the pleura posteriorly is less distinctly pollinose and the preapical brown band on the wing is distinctly wider.

Diopsis dalmanni Wiedemann

Male, Anai Kloof, west coast of Sumatra, 1926.

The first segment of the front tarsus in this and the preceding species is considerably elongated and broadened. The thorax is shining reddish ferruginous.